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EXAMINER

NATNAEL, PAULO S M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2614

DATE MAILED: 06/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/081,543

Applicant(s)

DUDKOWSKI, EDMOND LOUIS

Examiner

Paulos M. Natnael

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 March 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 6-17 and 21 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 18-20 and 22-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims **1-5, 18-20,22-25** are again rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peters, U.S. Pat. No. **6,058,236** in view of Fujii, U.S. Pat. No. **6,700,625**.

Considering claim **1**, a system for editing television signals comprising:

a) a plurality of input connectors for receiving separate input video signals, and an output connector, is met by input sources 1 and 2;

b) a mixer for generating at said output connector a real-time output video signal derived from at least one of said input video signals, is met by both video coprocessor 3 and audio coprocessor 4, fig. 1.

c) a single display monitor for simultaneously displaying each of said input video signals and said output video signal, is met by composite monitor 7 or the second monitor, fig.1;

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d) an imager coupled between said mixer and said display monitor for causing at least three images to be displayed..., said at least three images corresponding to said input video signals and said output video signal, is met by CPU/computer, fig.1;

except for;

e) the display monitor in a split-screen format;

Regarding e), Peters does not specifically disclose displaying images on said display monitor in a split-screen format. However, the method of displaying in a split screen format is well known in the art. In that regard, Fujii discloses an image processing system that accepts image signals from a plurality of sources and displays images of a plurality of frames simultaneously on a screen of the same monitor.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to the skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Peters et al., by providing a split screen monitor, in order to make the system more compact and to save the cost of having another display monitor to display multiple images.

Considering claim 2, the system of claim 1, further comprising at least one additional input connector for receiving one or more input audio signals and an additional output connector, said mixer further for generating a real-time output audio signal at said additional output connector derived from at least one said input audio signal, is met by audio inputs to audio processor 4, fig.1;

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Considering claim **3**, the system of claim 1, said imager comprising a first, second and third quad split PC board coupled together to generate a desired display arrangement on said display monitor, is met by the CPU 9 which is a PC comprising storage devices 5, a monitor and a keyboard as illustrated in fig.1; (see also

Considering claim **4**, the system of claim 1, wherein said display monitor is a single liquid crystal display (LCD) and said display monitor includes a computer VGA output, is met by the computer 9 and the monitor which includes VGA output as a standard. As to LCD, while Peters et al does not specifically discloses LCD, it would have been obvious to the skilled in the art to modify the system of Peters to utilize LCD display for it obvious advantages such as compactness and superior resolution than the standard CRT monitor.

Considering claim **5**, the system of claim 4, wherein said display monitor is factory set to a color reference standard, is implied because all monitors are set at the factory to commonly use standards such as the color reference standard.

Considering claim **19**, a plurality of input connectors for receiving separate input video signals and at least one input audio signal and at least two output connectors; a mixer for generating at one said output connector a real-time output video signal derived from at least one of said input video signals and for generating at a separate output connector a real-time output audio signal derived from at least one said input audio

signal; a single display monitor for simultaneously displaying each of said input video signals and said output video signal; and an imager coupled between said mixer and said display monitor for causing at least three images to be displayed on said display monitor in a split-screen format, said at least three images corresponding to said input video signals and said output video signal.

Regarding claim **19**, see rejection of claim 1. (note: the claimed two output connectors are met by the output connectors to the video coprocessor 3 and the audio coprocessor 4, in figure 1)

Considering claim **20**. A system for editing television signals comprising: a plurality of input connectors for receiving separate input video signals and at least one input audio signal and at least two output connectors; a mixer for generating at one said output connector a real-time output video signal derived from at least one of said input video signals and for generating at a separate output connector a real-time output audio signal derived from at least one said input audio signal; a single display monitor for simultaneously displaying each of said input video signals and said output video signal; an imager coupled between said mixer and said display monitor for causing at least three images to be displayed on said display monitor in a split-screen format, said at least three images corresponding to said input video signals and said output video signal;

Regarding claim 20, see rejection of claims **1 and 19**. (note: the claimed audio monitoring system coupled to said mixer for causing each said input audio signal and

said output audio signal to be heard, is met by the audio coprocessor and speaker 8, figure 1).

Considering claim **22**, see rejection of claim 1;

As to the claimed suitcase housing, it is met by the disclosure in the reference of Peters et al that "the invention is packaged so as to enable the system to withstand shocks for portable operation." (see col. 2, lines 10-12, and also col. 3, lines 45-55)

Considering claim **23**, Peters discloses the following claimed subject matter, note;

- a) the claimed receiving a plurality of separate input video signals, is met by the input signals at 1 and 2, fig.1;
- b) generating a real-time output video signal derived from at least one of said input video signals, is met by the video coprocessor 3, fig.1;
- c) causing at least three images to be displayed on a single display monitor ...said at least three images corresponding to said input video signals and said output video signal, is also met by the CPU 9, fig.1.

except for;

- d) display in split screen format.

Regarding d), see rejection of claim 1 (e).

Considering claim **24**, the method of claim 23 further comprising receiving at least one input audio signal, generating a real-time output audio signal derived from at least one

said input audio signals, and causing each said input audio signal and said output audio signal to be heard, is met by the audio coprocessor 4 and speaker 8, fig.1;

Considering claim **25**, see rejection of claims 23 and 24.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 3/4/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the Peters reference discloses media recorder not editing system; that Peters does not disclose generating a real-time output video signal; and, Fujii discloses still image comparing system and does not teach a system for editing television signals in real time....

Examiner's Response

a) In response to applicant's arguments, the recitation "Peters reference discloses media recorder not editing system" has not been given patentable weight because the recitation occurs in the preamble. A preamble is generally not accorded any patentable weight where it merely recites the purpose of a process or the intended use of a structure, and where the body of the claim does not depend on the preamble for completeness but, instead, the process steps or structural limitations are able to stand alone. See *In re Hirao*, 535 F.2d 67, 190 USPQ 15 (CCPA 1976) and *Kropa v. Robie*, 187 F.2d 150, 152, 88 USPQ 478, 481 (CCPA 1951).

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b) Peters discloses a video media recorder for recording live ...information. It is capable of receiving, digitizing...video information in real time, which means the same as live.

(see Abstract)

c) Fujii discloses that the system is applicable for "video signal and image data." (col. 1, lines 55-57) Besides, applicant cannot show non-obviousness by attacking references individually where, as here, the rejections are based on combination of references. In re Keller, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981)

Thus, the arguments are considered unpersuasive. And this action is made final.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims **6-17, 21** are allowable over the prior art.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art fails to disclose a system for editing television signals comprising: a monitor patch panel coupled between said input panel, said mixer and said imager; an LCD driver coupled between said imager and said display monitor; an audio monitoring system coupled to said mixer and said input panel for causing each said input audio signal and said output audio signal to be heard; a private line (P-L) communication and tally system coupled to said mixer; and an output panel coupled to said mixer and said P-L communication and tally system comprising each said output connector, as recited in claim **6**;

A plurality of input connectors for receiving separate input video signals and at least one input audio signal and at least two output connectors; a mixer for generating at one said output connector a real-time output video signal derived from at least one of said input video signals, for generating at a separate output connector a real-time output audio signal derived from at least one said input audio signal, and for generating a preview signal derived from at least one of said input video signals; a single display monitor for simultaneously displaying each of said input video signals and said output video signal; an imager coupled between said mixer and said display monitor, said imager comprising a first, second and third quad split PC board coupled together for causing at least three images to be displayed on said display monitor in a split-screen format, said at least three images corresponding to said input video signals and said output video signal; an input panel coupled to said mixer comprising each of said input connectors; a monitor patch panel coupled between said input panel, said mixer and said imager; an LCD driver coupled between said imager and said display monitor; an audio monitoring system coupled to said mixer and said input panel for causing each said input audio signal and said output audio signal to be heard; a private line (P-L) communication and tally system coupled to said mixer; an output panel coupled to said mixer and said P-L communication and tally system comprising each said output connector; and a portable housing for containing said system for editing television signals, as recited in claim **21**.

Conclusion

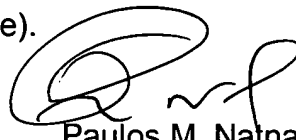
6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paulos M. Natnael whose telephone number is (571) 272-7354. The examiner can normally be reached on 10:00am - 6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (571)272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Paulos M. Natnael
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2614

June 17, 2005